

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
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R 261750Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1361
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USNMR SHAPE
USLO SACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0441

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR NATO
SUBJECT: INFRASTRUCTURE CEILING AUGMENTATION DANISH POSITION

REFS(A) USNATO 329, 201721Z JAN 77 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 15504,
242133Z JAN 77; (C) USNATO 390, 241723Z JAN 77.

1. FRG PERM REP PAULS TOLD AMBASSADOR, ON FRINGES OF JANUARY 26 MEETING OF DPC, THAT HE IS DEEPLY DISTURBED BY DANISH SUGGESTION FOR ONLY A VERY SMALL AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING (E.G., LESS THAT NEEDED TO SUSTAIN CURRENT LEVEL OF PROGRAM --REF A). PAULS IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED BECUASE HE BELIEVES THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE SLIGHT FOR A REVERSAL OF THIS NEGLECTFUL ATTITUDE IN COPENHAGEN PRIOR TO THE IMPENDING ELECTIONS, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT ISSUING FROM THOSE ELECTIONS WILL LIKELY BE WEAKER THAN THE ONE IT REPLACES.

2. THIS DEVELOPMENT IS IMPORTANT TO THE ALLIANCE, EVEN BEYOND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS PER SE, PAULS STATED FORCE-CONFIDENTIAL

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FULLY, BECUASE FAILURE TO AGREE ON ADEQUATE LEVELS FOR A PROGRAM AS WIDELY ACCEPTED AS INFRASTRUCTURE WILL BE WIDELY--AND, IN HIS JUDGMENT, CORRECTLY TAKEN AS A SIGN OF INADEQUATE ALLIANCE COHESION TO DEAL WITH THE LARGER PROBLEMS FACING US.

3. AMBASSADOR DID NOT INFORM PAULS OF OUR DEMARCHE IN COPENHAGEN (REF B), BUT DID SUGGEST THAT FRG MIGHT WISH TO URGE THE DANES TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING. PAULS INDICATED THAT, WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT IN DENMARK, HE FEARED THE PRE-

SENT SITUATION WAS HOPELESS.

4. COMMENT: PAULS' LINE OF ARGUMENT ABOUT THE BROADER IMPLICATIONS OF FAILING TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS WAS ALSO RAISED BY HIM DURING VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL (PARA 8, REF C). WE THEREFORE ASSUME THAT IT REPRESENTS AN OFFICIAL AND HIGH-LEVEL BONN POSITION. WHILE WE AGREE WITH THE IMPORTANCE OF OBTAINING ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS, WE CANNOT JUDGE AS TO WHETHER THE SITUATION IN COPENHAGEN IS AS SOMBER AS PAULS PORTRAYS IT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COPENHAGEN'S ASSESSMENT OF DANISH INTENTIONS AND CAPABILITIES AS THEY PERTAIN TO THIS PROGRAM. END COMMENT.STRAUSZ-HUPE

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